

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AGR-20 EB-11 SCS-03 SR-02 ORM-03

IO-13 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 HEW-08 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 PRS-01 RSC-01 SCA-01 USIA-15 /155 R

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P R 211553Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, GV

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY PL-480 REQUEST FROM GUINEA

FOR MAURICE WILLIAMS, AID, FROM NEWSOM

1. YOU WILL RECALL GUINEA HAS REQUESTED 15,000 METRIC TONS OF CORN AND SORGHUM FOR DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN NORTH-EAST ADJOINING MALI AND SENEGAL.

2. FFP OFFICER VISITED GUINEA IN LATE JUNE FOR PURPOSE MAKING ASSESSMENT OF REQUEST. HE ATTEMPTED TO MAKE ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF DISTRESSED AREA BUT GOG DEMURRED STRESSING DIFFICULTIES IN MAKING ADEQUATE AND TIMELY TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS. HOWEVER, ON BASIS INFORMATION PROVIDED BY GOG AND STRONG RECOMMENDATION OF EMBASSY, FFP OFFICER CONCURRED USG SHOULD HONOR GOG REQUEST.

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3. IN MY VISIT CONAKRY JULY 9-13 I HAD INSTRUCTIONS

SUGGESTING WE WOULD BE SYMPATHETIC TO GUINEAN REQUEST IF COMMODITIES WERE AVAILABLE. INSTRUCTIONS MADE NO REFERENCE TO ON-SITE INSPECTION. JUST AFTER MY DEPARTURE INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON SAID ON-SITE INSPECTION REQUIRED BEFORE ANY ASSISTANCE CAN BE PROVIDED.

4. WE HAVE MADE SPECIAL EFFORTS KEEP OUR RELATIONS WITH GUINEA ON EVEN KEEL IN VIEW MAJOR US INVESTMENTS INCLUDING

DOLLARS 25 MILLION AID LOAN TO BOKE BAUXITE PROJECT. IN FRANK CONVERSATION DURING MY VISIT, I SUGGESTED FUTURE RELATIONS INCLUDING ANY EXPANSION OF ASSISTANCE REQUIRED ESTABLISHMENT OF CONFIDENCE WHICH HAD NOT EXISTED IN PAST. I BELIEVE WE MADE SOME GAINS IN ESTABLISHING BASIS FOR CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP.

5. GUINEANS HAVE NOW REACTED ADVERSELY TO BELATED REQUEST FOR ON-SITE INSPECTION AND SUGGESTING BAD FAITH. YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS NOT HELPFUL IN INSURING LASTING EFFECTS OF CONVERSATIONS HELD DURING MY VISIT.

6. I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT GUINEA SHOULD NOT HAVE SPECIAL PRIORITY OVER NEEDS OF SIX SAHEL STATES. I UNDERSTAND AS WELL EXTREME LIMITS ON COMMODITY SUPPLY AND LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS. HAD WE NOT PROPOSED ON-SITE INSPECTION WHICH FURTHER IMPLIED OUR READINESS PROVIDE COMMODITIES I WOULD HAVE SUGGESTED WE BACK OFF.

7. IN VIEW OF CIRCUMSTANCES, HOWEVER, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR UNDERSTANDING IN AUTHORIZING TOKEN SHIPMENT OF 2,000 TONS OF CORN OR SORGHUM TO GUINEA ON CONDITION ANY FURTHER HELP MUST COMPETE WITH NEEDS OF PEOPLE IN SAHEL AND MUST BE BASED ON ON-SITE INSPECTION BY AID OFFICIALS IN REGION OF GUINEA HIT BY DROUGHT.

8. I HAVE DISCUSSED MATTER WITH DON BROWN WHO AWARE I AM PRESENTING MATTER TO YOU. RUSH

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